



TO: Maricopa County School Nurses

FROM: Dr. Bob England, director, Maricopa County Department of Public Health

DATE: September 29, 2010

RE: School Flu Vaccinations

First, I want to thank you for all that you do. We, at Public Health, recognize the critical role you fill in taking care of our kids.

We have been getting questions from some of you about what we are doing this year regarding school-based flu vaccinations. Through the summer, we have been working with Mollen Immunizations to set up a system where they could visit every school in Maricopa County. Billing would be handled by private insurance and no child would be turned away for inability to pay.

Since then, we wrote each school superintendant explaining our strategy and urging them to participate. Representatives from Mollen then contacted every school district (except for those who made other plans to offer school-based vaccination like Mesa and Scottsdale) and offered to administer vaccine clinics.

Now here is the disturbing part; **most of the larger districts have turned us down.**

I don't have to tell you that getting our kids vaccinated means more kids in class which translates to more money for our schools...not to mention, less flu in our community.

I am telling you all this because my hope is that you will be to assist us (and the community) by talking with your school and even district administrators about the importance of these clinics. We are willing to do all we can to help get this accomplished. Please contact our school liaisons, Nora Diaz at 602-506-6786 or Kim Sands at 602-506-2616 at if we can be of assistance or if you need more info.

Thanks again!

-Bob